

BEFORE

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 88-142-C - ORDER NO. 88-626

JUNE 23, 1988

IN RE: Application of Community Long Distance,) ORDER
Inc., for a Certificate of Public) GRANTING
Convenience and Necessity and Approval) CERTIFICATION
of its Rates and Charges.)

On April 15, 1988, Community Long Distance, Inc. (CLD) filed an Application with the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) requesting that the Commission grant CLD a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to operate as a reseller of interexchange telecommunications services in the State of South Carolina and approve its rates and charges. CLD intends to provide nationwide InterLATA service for its customers by utilizing the service offerings and facilities of various exchange carriers, facility based interexchange carriers and carriers' carriers certified to render service in South Carolina. The Application was filed pursuant to S. C. Code Ann. Section 58-9-280 (1976), as amended.

The Application was duly noticed, and a Petition to Intervene was filed by Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company (Southern Bell).

A hearing was held on Wednesday, June 15, 1988 at 10:30 a.m. in the Offices of the Commission, 111 Doctors Circle, Columbia, South Carolina. M. John Bowen, Jr., Esquire, represented CLD and

Marsha A. Ward, Assistant General Counsel, represented the Commission Staff.

At the commencement of the hearing, counsel for CLD introduced into evidence as Hearing Exhibit No. 1, a letter of consent signed by counsel for Southern Bell withdrawing from the proceeding.

The Commission finds that a certificate of public convenience and necessity should be granted to provide intrastate, interLATA service utilizing the service offerings and facilities of various exchange carriers, facilities-based interexchange carriers and carriers' carriers certificated to render service in South Carolina. All intrastate intraLATA calls must be completed over intraLATA service offerings and facilities of authorized intraLATA exchange carriers as authorized for resale by tariff. Any intraLATA calls not completed in this manner would be considered unauthorized traffic. CLD will be required to compensate local exchange carriers for any unauthorized intraLATA calls it carries, pursuant to Commission Order No. 86-793 in Docket No. 86-187-C.

The Commission herein adopts a rate design for CLD which includes only a maximum rate level for each tariff charge. A rate structure incorporating a maximum rate level with the flexibility for downward adjustment has been previously adopted by this Commission. In Re: Application of GTE Sprint

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Communications Corporation, etc., Order No. 84-622, issued in
Docket No. 84-10-C on August 2, 1984.


While the Commission is conscious of the need for resellers to adjust rates and charges timely to reflect the forces of economic competition, rate and tariff adjustments below the approved maximum levels should not be accomplished without notice to the Commission and to the public. CLD shall incorporate provisions for filing of proposed rate changes and publication of notice of such changes two weeks prior to the effective date of such changes, and affidavits of publication must be filed with the Commission. Any proposed increase in the maximum rate levels reflected in the tariffs of CLD which should be applicable to the general body of subscribers would constitute a general ratemaking proceeding which would be treated in accordance with the notice and hearing provisions of S. C. Code Ann., Section 58-9-540 (Cum. Supp. 1986). The rates filed with the Application are hereby approved as maximum rates. CLD is hereby order to file tariffs to reflect the findings herein within thirty (30) days of the date of this Order.

CLD is subject to access charges pursuant to Commission Order No. 86-584 in which the Commission determined that the

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reseller should be treated similarly to facility based inter-exchange carriers for access purposes. The foregoing findings and conclusions of the Commission are hereby ordered to be accomplished as set forth herein.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:


Chairman

ATTEST:


ACTING Executive Director

(SEAL)